In the claims:

1-21 (canceled)

22. (currently amended) A method of detecting activity of a G protein-coupled receptor (GPCR), comprising:

(a) expressing the GPCR in a cell from an exogenous nucleic acid molecule;

(b) expressing in the cell ~~a cyclic nucleotide-gated (CNG) channel selected from the group consisting of a wildtype CNG channel which is heteromeric and~~ a mutant cyclic nucleotide-gated CNG channel comprising at least one mutation that makes the channel more sensitive to cAMP than a channel that does not comprise the mutation;

(c) exposing the cell to at least one membrane potential dye; and

~~(c)~~ (d) measuring activity of the channel, wherein activity of the channel indicates activity of the GPCR.

23. (original) A method according to claim 22, wherein the CNG channel is expressed from an exogenous nucleic acid.

24. (original) A method according to claim 22, wherein the CNG channel is expressed from the genome of the cell.

25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~25~~ 22, wherein the dye ~~or probe~~ is a fluorescent dye ~~or probe~~ that can be detected by UV-based imaging systems.

27. (canceled)

28. (currently amended) A method according to ~~25~~ 22, wherein the dye is a voltage sensitive dye ~~or probe~~.

29. (original) A method according to claim 22, wherein measuring comprises determination of

~~activation of~~ CNG channel activity in a single cell.

30. (original) A method according to claim 29, wherein activation is determined by UV-based fluorescence using a microscope.

31. (original) A method according to claim 30, wherein the microscope is coupled to a computer system.

32. (original) A method according to claim 31, wherein the computer system tracks individual cells and performs statistical analysis.

33. (original) A method according to claim 22, wherein measuring is performed with a multiwell microplate reader.

34. (original) A method according to claim 33, wherein the reader is a fluorometric-based reader with a CCD camera.

35. (original) A method according to claim 33, wherein the reader is a fluorometric-based scanning microplate reader.

36. (currently amended) A method according to claim 22, ~~further~~ comprising attaching the cell to a solid surface.

37. (original) A method according to claim 36, wherein the solid surface is selected from the group consisting of slides and multiwell plates.

38. (original) A method according to claim 22, wherein the cell is pretreated with a cAMP analogue before measuring.

39. (original) A method according to claim 22, wherein the cell further expresses a promiscuous G protein.

40. (currently amended) A method according to claim 22, ~~wherein measuring comprises~~ comprising determining ion flux.

41. (currently amended) A method according to claim 40, wherein ion flux is determined by a change in spectral characteristic of a dye ~~or probe~~.

42. (original) A method according to claim 40, wherein ion flux is determined by patch clamp.

43. (currently amended) A method of identifying a ligand for a receptor, comprising:

(a) contacting a cell with a compound wherein the cell expresses the receptor and at least one cyclic nucleotide-gated (CNG) channel, wherein the receptor is not endogenous to the cell and the CNG channel is ~~selected from the group consisting of a wildtype CNG channel which is heteromeric and~~ a mutant CNG channel that has been engineered to increase the channel sensitivity to cAMP; ~~and~~

(b) exposing the cell to at least one membrane potential dye; and

~~(b)~~ (c) measuring ~~activation~~ activity of the CNG channel, wherein activation of the CNG channel indicates that the compound is a ligand for the receptor.

44. (original) A method according to claim 43, wherein the CNG channel is expressed from an exogenous nucleic acid.

45. (original) A method according to claim 43, wherein the CNG channel is expressed from the genome of the cell.

46. (canceled)

47. (currently amended) A method according to claim 46, wherein the dye ~~or probe~~ is a fluorescent dye ~~or probe~~ that can be detected by UV-based imaging systems.

48. (canceled)

49. (currently amended) A method according to 46, wherein the dye ~~or probe~~ is a voltage potential sensitive dye ~~or probe~~.

50. (currently amended) A method according to claim 43, wherein measuring comprises determination of ~~activation of~~ CNG channel activity in a single cell.

51. (original) A method according to claim 50, wherein activation is determined by UV-based fluorescence using a microscope.

52. (original) A method according to claim 51, wherein the microscope is coupled to a computer system.

53. (original) A method according to claim 51, wherein the computer system tracks individual cells and performs statistical analysis.

54. (original) A method according to claim 43, wherein measuring is performed with a multiwell microplate reader.

55. (original) A method according to claim 54, wherein the reader is a fluorometric-based reader with a CCD camera.

56. (original) A method according to claim 55, wherein the reader is a fluorometric-based scanning microplate reader.

57. (currently amended) A method according to claim 43, ~~further~~ comprising attaching the cell to a solid surface.

58. (original) A method according to claim 57, wherein the solid surface is selected from the group consisting of slides and multiwell plates.

59. (original) A method according to claim 43, wherein the cell is pretreated with a cAMP analogue before being contacted with the ligand.

60. (original) A method according to claim 43, wherein the cell further expresses a promiscuous G protein.

61. (currently amended) A method according to claim 43, ~~wherein measuring comprises~~ comprising determining ion flux.

62. (currently amended) A method according to claim 61, wherein ion flux is determined by a change in spectral characteristic of a dye ~~or probe~~.

63. (original) A method according to claim 61, wherein ion flux is determined by patch clamp.

64. (currently amended) A method of identifying an agent that modulates an activity mediated by a GPCR ~~receptor~~ comprising:

(a) contacting a cell with the agent and a ligand for the GPCR ~~receptor~~ wherein the cell expresses the GPCR ~~receptor~~ and at least one cyclic nucleotide-gated (CNG) channel ~~selected from the group consisting of a wildtype CNG channel which is heteromeric~~ and, wherein the CNG channel is a mutant CNG channel that has been engineered to increase the channel sensitivity to cAMP;

(b) exposing the cell to at least one membrane potential dye; and

~~(b)~~ (c) measuring ~~activation~~ activity of the CNG channel.

65. (currently amended) A method according to claim 64, further comprising:

(c) comparing ~~activation~~ the activity of the CNG channel to ~~activation~~ the activity of the channel in the absence of the agent, wherein a difference in ~~activation~~ the activity of the CNG channel indicates the agent modulates the activity.

66. (original) A method according to claim 64, wherein the CNG channel is expressed from an exogenous nucleic acid.

67. (original) A method according to claim 64, wherein the CNG channel is expressed from the genome of the cell.

68. (canceled)

69. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~68~~ 64, wherein the dye ~~or probe~~ is a fluorescent dye ~~or probe~~ that can be detected by UV-based imaging systems.

70. (canceled)

71. (currently amended) A method according to 69, wherein the dye ~~or probe~~ is a voltage ~~potential~~ sensitive dye ~~or probe~~.

72. (canceled)

73. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~72~~ 64, wherein ~~activation~~ channel activity is determined by UV-based fluorescence using a microscope.

74. (original) A method according to claim 73, wherein the microscope is coupled to a computer system.

75. (original) A method according to claim 74, wherein the computer system tracks individual cells and performs statistical analysis.

76. (original) A method according to claim 64, wherein measuring is performed with a multiwell microplate reader.

77. (original) A method according to claim 76, wherein the reader is a fluorometric-based reader with a CCD camera.

78. (original) A method according to claim 76, wherein the reader is a fluorometric-based scanning microplate reader.

79. (currently amended) A method according to claim 64, ~~further~~ comprising attaching the cell to a solid surface.

80. (original) A method according to claim 79, wherein the solid surface is selected from the group consisting of slides and multiwell plates.

81. (original) A method according to claim 64, wherein the cell is pretreated with a cAMP analogue before being contacted with the ligand.

82. (original) A method according to claim 64, wherein the cell further expresses a promiscuous G protein.

83-102 (canceled)